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LB 171

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Then I won't take the 30 seconds. I'll wait till my next time comes up.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you. Senator Jensen, on the motion to return.

SENATOR JENSEN: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the Legislature. I certainly did receive a few calls from individuals who had asked that I support this issue and had even thought about that, to a point. And then, as you know, we have mandates that come down upon the state quite often. Certainly this child support mandate is one of those that is costing the state huge amounts of dollars, and we'll comply with that. But we don't have anyone else to turn to, other than the taxpayers to pick that up. I'm also concerned with the fact that we passed in this Legislature a limit to property tax of 47 percent to schools, and that's all right. But that means then that we're going to give state aid to schools with the other 53 percent. Now, any time that we then follow that up with an exemption from a certain entity, that is going to put more burden on the backs of the individuals with sales and income tax. And so, at this point in time, I just cannot support LB 171, I think it would be unfair for us to do that. We have schools that are hit with mandates, many other businesses that are hit with mandates, and they don't have anywhere else to go. So, with that, I certainly will not be voting for LB 171, realizing it is a mandate but I don't believe that the television industry is any different than the schools, the other businesses that, yes, have to comply with these mandates as they come forward. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Jensen. Senator Vrtiska, on the motion to return.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Thank you, Senator Cudaback, members of the Legislature. I, too, am not going to support this. We talked about this earlier and, as I reviewed this legislation, I thought about my years on the county board and the mandates that the state of Nebraska sent down to counties and schools and cities and many times without any reimbursement or any way to take care of them. And I understand why they did it. I